

NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES DOLLARS TO MILNOR TO ADDRESS SEWER SYSTEM

MILNOR, N.D., (Nov. 23, 2004) – Residents of Milnor have more than three million reasons for feeling optimistic about their community's future.

Clare Carlson, USDA Rural Development state director, presented a symbolic check



State Director Clare Carlson speaking during lunch at the Milnor Senior Center on Tuesday, November 23, 2004.

today for \$3,211,995 to help fund improvements to Milnor's waste water collection system.

In making the presentation, Carlson said, "We are glad for the residents of Milnor. This is a good project that will provide the infrastructure necessary to establish

businesses and build homes in the area."

The funding to the city of Milnor will benefit approximately 711 residents. The check incorporated a \$1.3 million grant from USDA Rural Development and \$1,911,995 in two loans.

"The grant and two loans from Rural Development represent the commitment of President George Bush and the Bush Administration to rural America," Carlson said.



State Director Clare Carlson presents check to Ed Heinert, president of the Milnor City Council.

The city's collection system, which was built in the 1930's and mainly made up of clay tile, was experiencing excessive strain on its lift stations and lagoon due to excessive ground water infiltration due to poor conditions to the sewer system.

The funds will upgrade the city's collection system through a process called lining. Reconstruction of the existing master lift station will include larger pumps, piping, new controls, and installing a 12 inch force main to the lagoon system.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural economic and community development needs. Its mission is to deliver programs that will support increased economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. It administers

financial and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development and critical community and technology infrastructure.

In Fiscal Year 2004, USDA Rural Development provided over <u>\$78 million dollars</u> in loan and grant financing to North Dakota citizens. For more information, please visit our web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.g